

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 955

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mr. David Clare Kipp, Sr.  
of Donelson.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly learned of the passing of David Kipp; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kipp was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, David Kipp was a prominent figure and highly respected member of the Donelson community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kipp had served with acumen and alacrity as an officer in the U.S. Naval Reserves, and he had earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the excellent quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, David Kipp first answered his country's patriotic call to duty during World War II, when he rendered admirable service in the Pacific Theater as a photo pilot; he flew over targets so they could be photographed before and after bombing; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kipp showed tremendous bravery and gallantry during his military service; when the aircraft carrier on which he was stationed, the *Hancock*, was severely

damaged by Japanese kamikaze pilots while he was still in the air, David Kipp landed his plane on half a ship; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kipp was a witness to history in the making as he flew over the battleship, the *Missouri*, during the signing of the Japanese surrender; and

WHEREAS, David Kipp was awarded six air medals and received the prestigious Distinguished Flying Cross Medal for his valiant service; and

WHEREAS, after World War II ended, Mr. Kipp continued his distinguished military service in the U.S. Naval Reserves and was called back to active duty during the Korean War, during which he learned to fly helicopters; he retired from the Reserves as a Commander in 1969; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kipp, along with other members of the Middle Tennessee World War II Fighter Pilots Association, co-authored a collection of pilots' war stories titled, *Missions Remembered*, which was published in 1998; and

WHEREAS, a civic-minded individual who was a pillar of the community, David Kipp joined the Rotary Club of Donelson in 1961 and served as its president in 1964. He boasted a record of perfect attendance for 27 years, and he and his wife had been honored as Paul Harris Fellows by the Rotary Club; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kipp was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, David Kipp enjoyed the loving companionship of his devoted wife of 50 years, Viola H. Kipp, and was the proud father of Susan D. Butler, David C. Kipp, Jr., and Sally A. Phillips; he was also the loving grandfather of six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, David Kipp leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Mr. David Clare Kipp, Sr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the friends and family of David Kipp.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.